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**Spargo, John.** *The Common Sense of the Milk Question.* Pp. xiv, 351. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1908.

In his latest book Mr. Spargo undertakes to provide a statement of the milk problem that can be readily understood and appreciated by the man of average intelligence. He succeeds admirably and his work ought to prove extremely useful. The book takes up, in simple, popular fashion, the question of infant feeding. It points out the dangers of filth in milk and of milk-borne diseases, especially tuberculosis. The plain facts here rehearsed, without any attempt at sensationalism, will arrest the attention of every thoughtful reader and help him realize how great is our social responsibility for the ignorance and carelessness that bring about such a terrible slaughter of the children.

The second half of the book deals with the various methods of improvement and their remarkable results in saving child life. Mr. Spargo urges drastic inspection laws to stamp out tuberculosis, and favors invoking the federal authority for this purpose. He advocates municipal dairies to supply public institutions, with ultimate extension so as to provide milk for children outside. His final chapter outlines a comprehensive policy for securing good milk, with the following points: "Healthy herds—efficient inspection—insistence upon cleanliness and careful handling of the milk—municipal farms for the providing of public institutions, infant's milk depots for the sale of properly modified and pasteurized milk for babies, and education of the mothers and of the girls before they reach wifehood and motherhood." It is a reasonable, practical program, just as the book is a reasonable, practical book. A good index and a list of some of the best references add to its value.

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**Spears, J. R.** *A History of the United States Navy.* Pp. xii, 334. Price, \$1.50. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1908.

The greater part of this book is occupied in telling the story of our important naval battles, giving considerable attention to the "heroes" who commanded the American ships. In addition, there are brief chapters on the naval situation at the beginnings of our war and on the development of ships and guns in the old navy, the building of our present "White Squadron," and the naval development of the past ten years. Except in the opening chapter, which discusses the organization of our first navy, the question of administration is not considered.

The general thesis is that the United States has had peace when her navy was strong and well prepared and has had one war with imminent danger of others when our navy was neglected. On this basis, the natural plea for a larger navy, as a safeguard to peace, is made. Emphasis is laid on the foolishness of the policy of "peaceable coercion," which preceded